

**APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING A SCREEN
POINTER**

Abstract

5 An apparatus for controlling a position of a screen pointer for an
electronic device having a display screen includes a touchpad including a touch-
sensitive surface on which a pointing object may be placed. The touchpad is
configured to generate position signals indicative of positions of the pointing
object on the touch-sensitive surface. The apparatus includes a controller for
10 generating a first set of movement data based on the position signals. The first
set of movement data is indicative of motion of the pointing object across the
touch-sensitive surface. The controller is configured to generate a second set of
movement data when the pointing object is removed from the touch-sensitive
surface, thereby leaving the touch-sensitive surface free from contact by a
15 pointing object. The second set of movement data is indicative of motion of the
pointing object across the touch-sensitive surface prior to removal of the
pointing object.